Federal Disaster Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

U.S. Small Business Administration - Area 3 Disaster Office - 14925 Kingsport Road - Fort Worth, TX 76155 - 1-800-366-6303

DATE: August 15, 2003 Release Number: 03-254 Michael Lampton 817-868-2300

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SBA ECONOMIC INJURY DISASTER LOAN DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR DISASTER VICTIMS

FORT WORTH, TX -- Businesses in some lowa and South Dakota counties have until **September 15**, **2003** to file applications for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available for businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers sustaining crop losses due to severe storms, hail, and high winds, that occurred September 20, 2003, and continuing. Farmers and ranchers are not eligible for these SBA loans. Businesses in the following counties are eligible to apply:

lowa:

Buena VistaDickinsonO'BrienPlymouthCherokeeEmmetOsceolaPocahontasClayLyonPalo AltoSioux

South Dakota:

Lincoln Union

Applications and further information can be obtained by calling the SBA toll-free at 1-800-366-6303 or TDD 817-267-4688 for the hearing impaired.

These loans are intended to assist businesses in offsetting working capital losses which they suffered as a result of the severe weather reducing the crop income of the area farmers and ranchers. Small businesses claiming to have been physically injured by the disaster are not eligible.

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For more information about the SBA Disaster Loan Programs, visit our website at www.sba.gov/disaster.